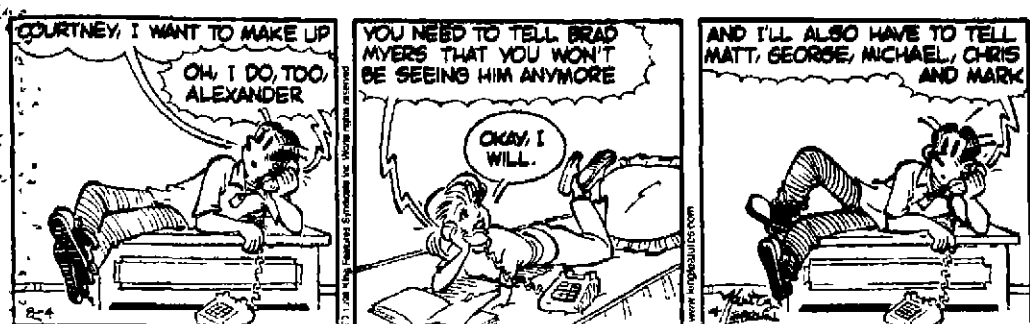


BLONDIE



SALLY FORTH



THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



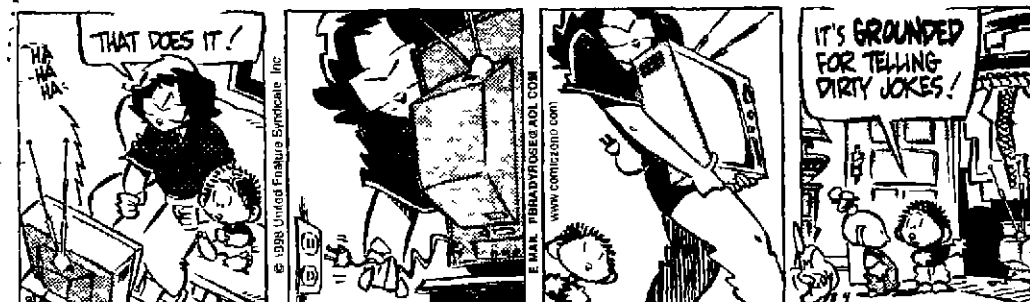
9 CHICKWEED LANE



ANDY CAPP



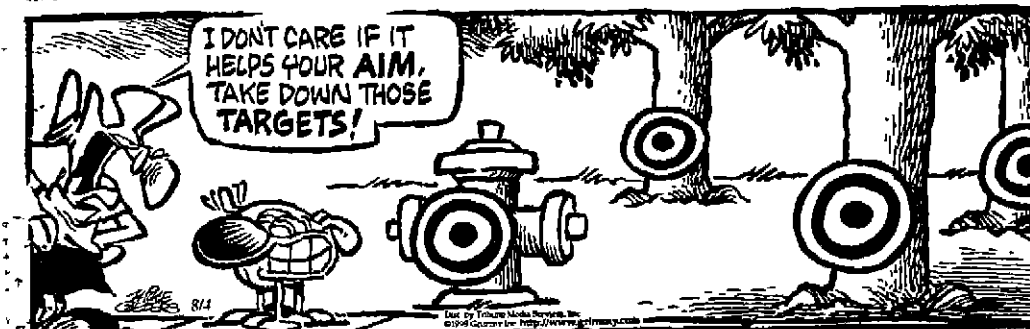
ROSE IS ROSE



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



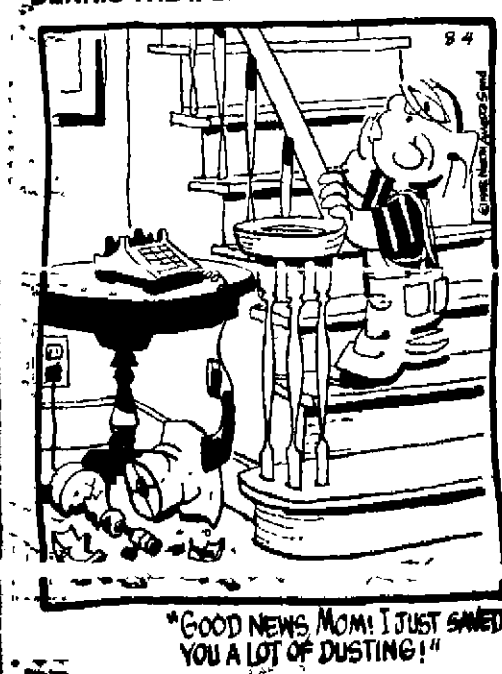
MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



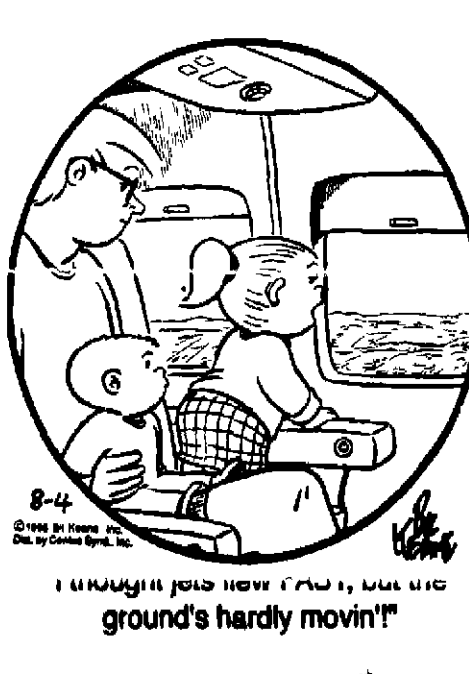
DILBERT



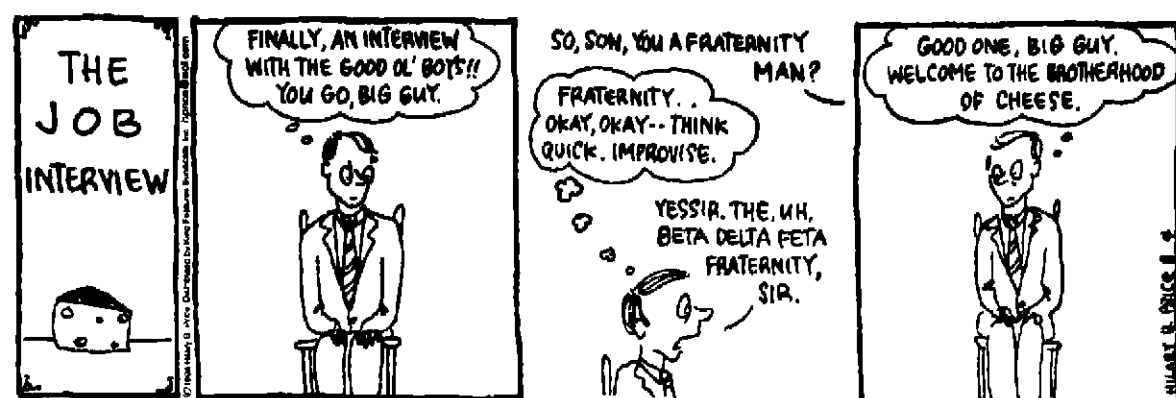
DENNIS THE MENACE



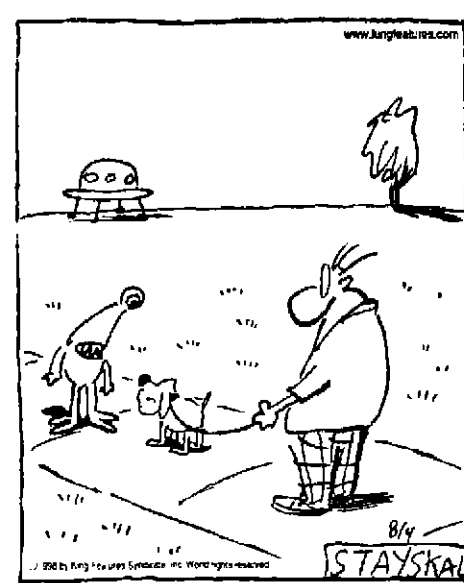
FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



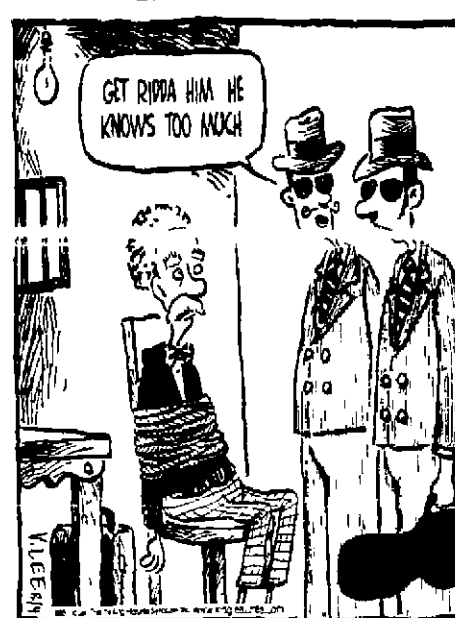
RALPH



Today's Birthdays

Britain's Queen Mother Elizabeth is 98. The dean of the White House press corps, Helen Thomas of United Press International, is 98. A former leader Yasser Arafat is 69. Singer Frankie Ford is 58. Track star Mary Decker Stanley is 40. Baseball pitcher Roger Clemens is 36. Rock musician Rob Ciesla (Boo Radleys) is 30. Actor Michael DeLuise is 29. Rhythm-and-blues singer-actor Marques Houston (Immature) is 17.

I NEED HELP



SCRABBLE

PAR SCORE 170-180 by JUDD

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7 letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in the Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merrim-Webster) and OSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). Judd's SOLUTION TOMORROW

FOUR RACK TOTAL TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

RACK 1: M, S, T, E, L, A, S

RACK 2: F, F, R, N, A, I, U

RACK 3: N, O, E, E, R, P, S

RACK 4: C, N, C, R, O, O, A

For solution, see Classified.

WORD SLEUTH

Shoe

C I E B Y V S B Q N M K H E B
Y W T R O L J G R E B U Y W U
R P B A S K E T B A L L G Y M
N K I G D B Z L X V K C A R T
S Q O M K I G E O C P E O E G
A Y W U S Q H P N S A F N L N
L J K H F E C O S A T N E D I
Y X V C U S Q E R A I F D D N
P N M K E J R H L S F E O A N
C B Z Y X D V P U R E V O S U
T R Q P O M L K I H G E W D R

Monday's unlisted clue: COLT
Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.
Tuesday's unlisted clue hint: NAILED TO A ROOF

Basketball, Gym, Running, Tennis, Sailing, Gym, Saddle, Track, Duck, Over, Soft-sole, Wooded, Dress, Platform, Tap

© 1998 King Features, Inc.

For solution, see Classified.

HOROSCOPE

For Wednesday, Aug. 5, 1998

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Your career will be advanced through an unexpected series of events.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You will be back in top form after a frustrating period of lethargy.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) It might be best to pass on volunteering to help someone else. There will be duties around the home that need your attention first.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) An overly ambitious co-worker might cause some difficulties.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) If you are worried about your performance, take a step back and try to gauge others' responses.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) You might not want to reveal your true feelings to someone yet, but you are heading in the right direction. The delight will be as much in the process as the product.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Listen to what an older friend or relative has to say. Try to stay open-minded.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) A leadership vacuum will arise. Everyone will have a collective sigh of relief as you move on to a new stage of a project.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Needed momentum will gather, thanks to new input from an unexpected source.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) People will admire your loyalty and dedication in the face of a difficult decision.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) While ambition is a fine thing to get you up in the morning, keep your goals realistic.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) Pool resources and your dreams are likely to become a reality.

ACES ON BRIDGE

By Bobby Wolff

Thanks to the marvel of the computer age, intermediate players can now use a home computer to engage a private tutor. The first of Bobby Wolff's Bridge Mentoring Series is now available. Volume I is designed to improve one's play through a comprehensive survey of ducks, holdups and related techniques. Volume I includes 60 practice problems and critiques, including audio-visual expert advice from Bobby Wolff on CD-ROM. For your copy, call (888) 273-8749 (\$29.95 plus shipping and handling). Today's deal offers an example problem. West leads the heart 10, East plays his jack, and South faces his first decision. Should he win or hold up? If he ducks, he finds trouble when East switches to spades. Dummy's spade ace will be knocked out before South can establish dummy's diamonds, and the game falls one short. As South has six top winners outside the diamond suit, he should concentrate on his best chance to score three diamond winners. If South wins the first heart and leads a diamond to dummy's jack, a shrewd duck by East will prove fatal. South can no longer win three diamonds, again going one down. The solution? South should win the first heart to lead a diamond to dummy's nine. If East ducks, South can win four diamonds, so East must win South's heart exit and loses a second diamond to East, but he does not lose the game. The defenders take two diamonds and two hearts, and South has his nine winners.

NORTH 08 04 A
♠ A 10
♥ 6 3 2
♦ A Q J 9 2
♣ 7 5 3

WEST EAST
♠ 7 5 4 ♠ Q J 9 8
♥ Q 10 9 4 ♥ J 8 5
♦ 7 5 ♦ K 10 8 4
♣ Q 9 8 4 ♣ J 10

SOUTH
♠ K 6 3 2
♥ A K 7
♦ 6 3
♣ A K 6 2

Vulnerable: Neither
Dealer: South

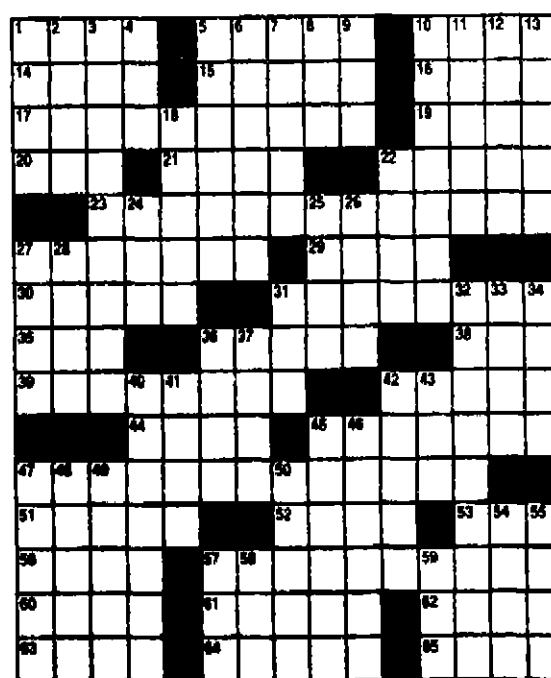
The bidding:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 3 NT All pass

Opening lead: Heart 10

N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 0623

- ACROSS**
- Automobile pioneer
 - Baby's affliction
 - Sailing maneuver
 - Pub missile
 - "Is that —?" ("Really?")
 - Precollege, briefly
 - Military attire
 - Iranian money
 - Reggae relative
 - Yarn maker
 - Troutlike fish
 - Plants with small, fragrant flowers
 - Kind of lantern
 - Playwright O'Casey
 - Masters and Jonson, e.g.
 - Pellet propeller
 - Jerk
 - the good
 - Sportscaster Berman
 - One of the Virgin Islands
 - On the — (not working)
 - Sign
 - Go along with
 - Leafy dish
 - Willow twig
 - One of the "back 40"
 - Motons's org.
 - "Scat, cat!"
 - Breakfast side dish
 - Computer list
 - Cow of note
 - Anniversary, e.g.
 - Kin
 - Check writer
 - Potato features
- DOWN**
- Lotto info
 - Escapade
 - Most marvelous
 - Ave. crossers
 - Mountain retreats
 - Recently
 - Actress San Giacomo
 - Diamonds, to a yegg
 - Pennies Abbr.
 - End points
 - 1979 sci-fi classic
 - Classroom supply
 - Glasgow garb
 - Turns sharply
 - Fight, but not for real
 - It borders four Great Lakes: Abbr.
 - "— me?"
 - Planet Peter
 - Calculating types
 - Welcomer
 - Capp and Capone
 - Pige native
 - Auto maker Ferrari
 - Actor Milo
 - Club members since 1917
 - GIVEN to gabbing
 - What's required to be "in"
 - Cartoon canine
 - Comic strip rechead
 - baby food
 - Kramer of "Seinfeld"
 - "— Death" (Greg work)
 - Wise
 - It goes before carte, but not horse
 - Keats creation



Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone.

Annual subscription information is available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years. 1-888-7-ACROSS.